

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Tribal Participants:

David Gensaw, Sr., Councilman for Yurok Tribe Joe Myers, Native American Advisory Council

(NAAC)

Aaron Oliver, Cahto Tribe

Rob Krikorian, Redding Rancheria

Loren Norton, Hoopa Valley Tribe

Joey Silvas, Pit River Tribe

Herb Quinn, Pit River Tribe

Joe James, Yurok Tribe

Sandi Tripp, Karuk Tribe Crista Stewart, Elk Valley Rancheria

James Hayward, Redding Rancheria Russell Burriel, Susanville Indian Rancheria

Caltrans Participants:

Pam Korte Joan Sollenberger
Bruce de Terra Kendee Vance
Kimberly Johnston-Dodds Bennie Lee
Laurie Waters Austin Hicks
Dave Moore Steve Pendergast

Other Participants:

Georgiena Vivian, VRPA Technologies, Inc. Allen Rose, Nisbett Beebe (stenographer)

Information Packets (provided to participants):

- Agenda
- > Tribal Listening Session PowerPoint Presentation
- > California Transportation Plan (CTP) 2040 Draft Vision Statement and Policy Framework
- > Transportation Project and Planning Programming Partnerships and Communication Diagram
- Tribal Listening Sessions Discussion Questions
- > The California Transportation Plan and Native American Tribes
- > CTP 2040 Fact Sheet
- > CTP 2040 Scope Document & Timeline
- Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan Fact Sheet
- > Freight Mobility Plan Fact Sheet
- > California State Rail Plan Fact Sheet
- > Statewide Transit Strategic Plan Fact Sheet
- California Aviation System Plan Fact Sheet

Introductions and Welcome – Laurie Waters and Dave Moore (with Opening Prayer by James Hayward)

- Thank you to James Hayward for opening, Redding Rancheria for the facility, and Rob Krikorian for organizing the facility
- November is Native American Heritage Month. Also, thank you to all veterans in the room



Thursday, November 14, 2013

- This is the 3rd Listening Session held across the State, with one or two more to follow
- The sessions build upon each other and we are gathering input on what the transportation plan should look like. This session will include presentations and an open discussion
- The main purpose of the sessions is public outreach. They will also be used to prepare a Fact Sheet
- Introductions All introduced themselves
- The presentations conducted will be high level and not overly detailed. If anyone wants more in-depth presentations, this can be accommodated and Caltrans can meet directly with each Tribe or attend other scheduled meetings (such as the one that occurred at the California Indian Manpower Consortium in Bishop)

2) Presentation on the CTP – Laurie Waters and Kimberly Johnston-Dodds

- The CTP 2040 is the State's long-range transportation plan and includes all transportation in California, not just Caltrans facilities. It defines both policies and strategies to achieve the future vision of transportation and includes all statewide plans (including Tribal). It has a minimum 20-year planning horizon. The CTP 2040 is due to the legislature in December of 2015
- The CTP 2025 is the current plan. Due to Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) requirements, an Addendum was prepared for the year 2030
- For the first time, this updated CTP will include transportation modeling
- How can the CTP be more useful to you (the Tribes)?
- Why is the CTP important to you?
 - o The Tribes can help inform the statewide transportation policy framework
 - o The Tribes can ensure their issues are included
 - o It provides a great forum to raise important Tribal issues
 - It gives direction to the regional transportation plans and guides transportation investments
- One of the important issues to be included in the CTP relates to funding of Tribal transportation projects
- The regional agencies and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) the Tribes should be coordinating with are:
 - o Cahto Tribe Mendocino Council of Governments
 - Karuk Tribe Humboldt and Siskiyou
 - o Susanville Tribe Lassen County Regional Transportation Plan
 - Humboldt County, North Coast Humboldt County Association Of Governments, and Del Norte in District 1
 - Shasta County in District 2
 - o If Tribes are unclear who they should be coordinating with, contact the Native American Liaison
- The overall vision for the CTP is the Three E's Economy, Equity, and Environment
- The Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) contains three (3) Tribal members Sandi Tripp, Jacque Hostler from Trinidad Rancheria, and Connie Reitman-Solas from Inter-Tribal Council of California



- The policy framework is still a work in progress and the Tribes should consider it and have the opportunity to provide feedback
- The proposed Vision Statement now also includes public health and social equity
- The CTP integrates other statewide modal plans highway plan, freight plan, rail plan, transit plan, and aviation plan. The CTP also incorporates the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), the State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) Ten-Year Plan, the Smart Mobility Action Plan, and the Transportation Management System Plan
- As the Tribes review the Fact Sheets for each of the Plans, if they see something they want to be included on/involved with, who should they contact?
 - o The District Native American Liaison, or Kimberly Johnston-Dodds or Bennie Lee
- With respect to statewide planning, the CTP acts as an umbrella document with everything underneath. The CTP does not include projects, but is a policy document that guides the development of other plans (some of the other plans include specific projects)
- Under Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), Tribes can go directly to apply for transportation funding instead of going through a local sponsor. Caltrans is in the process of figuring out how the process will work
- One of the major issues identified by the Tribes is that they are trying to work with and coordinate with the regional and local agencies, but they aren't seeing any results
- It was suggested that the CTP include that Regional Transportation Authorities coordinate with Tribes annually, every 6 months, or quarterly and come to them to be educated and learn how Tribal governments work
- Suggestion for the Strategic Highway Safety Plan It was mentioned that there needs to be
 coordination between California Highway Patrol (CHP) and the Tribal officers with respect to
 safety. The Yurok Tribe has been told that nothing can be done (with respect to improvement
 projects) until there are fatalities on a roadway. But if fatalities occur but are not documented by
 CHP, then nothing is done. The Tribes don't just want to attend meetings, they want to be
 heard, they want to be involved, and they want things to get done
- How do we bridge the gap and hold the regional planning agencies and committees accountable to listen to the Tribes and follow up on the issues? The Cahto Tribe has tried to discuss their Caltrans development policy with the regional transportation committee but they don't get any response. There needs to be accountability. On a bridge project, the Tribe had to use other avenues (they pursued a grant) outside the policies of Caltrans to get funding
- Another major issue identified by the Tribes is that there isn't a system of shared data. Tribal
 land is considered private property by the CHP so car accidents are not included in the national
 system. It was suggested that there needs to be a system that allows Tribes to enter this
 information, either through CHP or the Tribe's transportation department. Or we can create a
 shared service system
- The process for outreach, Tribal outreach, and Tribal consultation is ongoing throughout the CTP process
- The next steps for the CTP: a) First draft of the document completed in January or February, b) focus groups were conducted, c) Tribal listening sessions are occurring now (with the next one to be conducted in the Central Valley in December), d) Tribal discussion is ongoing, e) modeling scenario analysis in summer of 2014, f) public workshops in the fall of 2014, g) CTP delivered to legislature in December 2015



Thursday, November 14, 2013

3) Presentation on Other Statewide Plans (Freight, Rail, Highway) – Bruce de Terra

- The Freight Plan is now required based on legislation just signed by the Governor in September. It's consistent with federal law under MAP-21 and provides new guidance that is consistent nationally and with the State. The federal law identifies specific content, but the plan is optional under federal law. The new State law says it has to be consistent with the federal law
- The federal guidelines include 1) create a Freight Advisory Committee (FAC), 2) designate a freight network, 3) coordinate with Tribal governments
- The national freight network has a limit of 30,000 centerline miles and is very focused on highways. Since this is limited, the State is looking at identifying a State freight network that is more expansive
- The FAC has grown and now includes 62 members, 2 of which are Tribal representatives (Isaac Kinney from the Yurok Tribe and Adam Geisler in La Jolla both are also on the NAAC)
- The federal guidelines reference coordination with Tribal governments, but the language isn't strong. Based on recent feedback received, Tribal coordination has been given more presence in the Plan
- Senate Bill (SB) 391 requires us to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by the Year 2050. The Freight Plan will identify the projects and strategies for the freight industry that might help achieve that
- The Freight Plan is looking at the horizon year of 2050 because we want to make sure we don't
 preclude some options in the future through the decisions we make today. The Freight Plan is
 one of the plans that will identify projects
- The current federal transportation bill is a 2-year bill (with 11 months left) but there isn't any freight money identified for the projects to be implemented. There is hope that the next transportation bill will contain funding, so we want to make sure we have projects identified that could be eligible
- The current freight system in California is a mix of private ownership, public ownership, and public and private operators. There are 12 deepwater ports with navigation channels. The entire state rail network is included, which is mostly made up of the Union Pacific Railroad and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway. All of the short line railroads are included. Intermodal facilities are included because it is where freight is transferred between modes. It includes the 12 largest air cargo airports. Southern California dominates the freight industry in the country and in North America. The Freight Plan is also required to address pipelines
- If a Tribe has the need for the rail system (transporting product), should they try to get that project into the Plan even though there aren't any funds?
 - Yes, that could be included in the Freight and/or Rail Plans. The Tribes should contact Kimberly Johnston-Dodds or the Native American Liaison
- Are all of the railways shown on the Freight Plan currently operational?
 - o Yes, they are all operational, though not necessarily currently active
- Are you satisfied with the California Public Utilities Commission handling the pipeline infrastructure aspect of the Freight Plan?
 - Not answered, discussion continued



Thursday, November 14, 2013

- Are the vendors or Tribal governments responsible when buses are cited by CHP for being too long for the roadways?
 - Over-sized trucks and buses are a safety problem on many roadways throughout the State and CHP has the authority to enforce the law. The two options for getting around the citations are to have a CHP escort that gets paid independently, or to change the geometrics of the roadway to accommodate the over-sized vehicles which is a huge undertaking. But if we can show that there is a need to widen the roads, then we can try to move forward with projects to improve the access. You can also request transportation permits for extralegal long or extra high loads, but these would be denied if the facilities cannot handle the vehicle size
- In 1997, SB 45 split the available funding and designated 75% of the funding for regional agencies and 25% for Caltrans in cooperation with the California Transportation Commission (CTC). As part of the Highway Plan, the ten most significant state highways for providing connectivity between major regions were identified. For these ten highways, the areas that needed to be upgraded were also identified (for example, widening from 2-lane highway to 4-lane expressway)
- Caltrans just completed a status update of what has been accomplished on these state highways since 1998. They are now going to start a process to determine whether these routes are still appropriate for interregional transportation funds
- ➤ Does the Plan also identify the cost of the improvements?
 - No, the Plan is just a visionary document and not financially constrained. The cost will be determined when the project goes through the development process
- > Does the Plan identify existing issues (deteriorated roadways)?
 - The color coding on the maps identifies whether there is a concept for the roadway in the future. There are programs for repairing failing roadways. Some of the projects may not fall within the long-range plans for preservation, so they become emergency projects in the SHOPP, although there is a funding shortfall there as well
- ➤ Is the State eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds for some of these projects?
 - o To be eligible for FEMA funding, there has to be a declaration of an emergency on the federal level. But Caltrans can check with FEMA to confirm this

4) Lunch Break

5) General Discussion – Kimberly Johnston-Dodds

- It is important that we increase and improve coordination between the regional and local governments and Tribal governments. The Tribes are encouraged to contact Secretary Brian Kelly of the Governor's Office
- Last spring, the Caltrans District Directors sent letters to the federally recognized Tribes inviting consultation. If the Tribes want to initiate that, they can contact the District Directors and Liaisons
- The stenographer is transcribing each of the listening sessions to help in recording all feedback, and then a summary report will be prepared. These will be sent out to all attendees for review.



Thursday, November 14, 2013

These will also be incorporated into an overall summary for the Native American Advisory Committee

- There will likely be several Fact Sheets since some of the issues may be specific to certain regions. The CTP will also contain a chapter for Tribal governments, but then information will also be presented throughout
- The Yurok Tribe would like to have Secretary Kelly come to Yurok for some dialogue. How would that be coordinated?
 - o Kimberly Johnston-Dodds will discuss it with the liaison and work with Secretary Kelly's office. Councilman Gensaw requested it be coordinated through Joe James on the Tribal side. Kendee Vance suggested that the CTP consultation policy be drafted to include this information as well so that Tribes know the process for requesting meetings with the Secretary or agencies (who do you contact and what is the process/protocol?). The Federal Highways Guide for Tribal Transportation contains a section for consultation that would be a good starting point
- The Tribes requested that the regional agencies be informed that they are being discussed in these listening sessions and make sure they receive the Tribal feedback as well
- The Tribes feel that some entities are not coordinating with them, and don't want to coordinate with them because they are afraid their funding will be used for Tribal projects. They need to understand the benefits of partnering
- Within the last few years, the Hoopa Valley Tribe has been successfully coordinating with Humboldt County Association of Governments, but it has been a long road
- The Tribes in areas with smaller populations are concerned that it will be difficult to compete for funding with the rest of the State because their population (and traffic count numbers) is lower. They are worried they won't receive much attention
- The Tribes suggested that a Consultation Plan be prepared that makes the regional agencies accountable for consulting with Tribal governments. It could be something added to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) guidelines to have consultation plans that are required, not optional
- The Tribes would like to have their members hired for Caltrans jobs that occur on their lands

6) Continued Presentation on Other Statewide Plans (Freight, Rail, Highway) – Bruce de Terra

- Once the draft national highway network is released, there will likely be a 30-day comment period. Caltrans will distribute the network and ask for comments and will consult with the Freight Advisory Committee (FAC)
- The Freight Plan is due in December 2014
- The State Rail Plan was just approved by the Federal Railroad Administration. It is required by both federal and State laws and includes both passenger and freight rail. Once the Rail Plan was completed, new guidelines were released that require the Plan to be redone. It is due in early spring of 2017 but the process will begin in spring 2014
- During the last process for the Rail Plan, there was a late and inadequate consultation with the Tribes. This time, Caltrans plans to consult with Tribes up front and throughout the process
- The Rail Plan will contain projects that are financially constrained and unconstrained. A project must be included in the Plan for it to be eligible for federal funding



Thursday, November 14, 2013

- The Rail Plan will discuss High Speed Rail (HSR) as well as existing passenger rail
- The Rail Plan is mandated, but no funding is provided?
 - There is staff that is funded, but Caltrans is not provided with specific funding to develop the Rail Plan
- ➤ Is this funding going to be sufficient for getting the Rail Plan completed?
 - o Caltrans will make it sufficient
- The Highway, Freight, and Rail Plans are being prepared consistent with each other
- The FAC meetings are broadcast online so those interested can watch. Legally, the FAC is not allowed to receive feedback from the public over the web access

7) Presentation on Strategic Highway Safety Plan Requirements – Joan Sollenberger

- SAFETEA-LU was the first to require the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). The first Plan was developed in 2005-2006 and did not include any Tribal involvement, which wasn't required at the time. New requirements call for consultation with Tribal governments
- The SHSP includes all public roads, including Tribal roads that aren't just private limited access. It is a full partnership between Caltrans, CHP, Office of Traffic Safety, National Highway Safety Transportation Administration, Education, and Department of Defense (DOD), with Caltrans as the lead
- One of the differences between the SHSP and the CTP is that the CTP is comprehensive and a strategic plan is focused on the most important things where to apply resources where they are needed most to make the most out of the improvement. But the SHSP and the CTP must be consistent with each other
- Safety at the federal level is represented by the four E's Engineering (Caltrans), Enforcement (CHP), Education (stakeholders), and Emergency Service
- Many Tribes are interested in coordinating with State agencies to prepare a "what-if" plan for emergencies in case of flood, fire, etc. The plan would also identify effective detours
- At the annual SHSP Executive Leadership Meeting last year, all leaders of the applicable agencies/organizations attended and identified their top priorities. Priorities included updating the plan and the traffic safety culture
- A lot of accomplishments have been made over the last 6 years and there has been improved safety on the State highway system
- Under MAP-21, the process is now going to be data-driven. We have data in some areas, but not all. The data is showing that we need to do more on the local system, including all local public roads
- The Highway Safety Improvement Projects (HSIP) is a funded pot of money, with half of the money going to the State and half going to local jurisdictions. Tribal governments are also eligible for the local portion
- ➤ Is the HSIP funding process through the RTP or a competitive grant process?
 - It is a State administered program and it's most likely a competitive grant process based on benefit-cost of the project. When the grants are made, then the project needs to be amended into the regional programs
- ➤ How are the Tribes assured that there is going to be any funding left once they get data?



- o It's an ongoing program. Caltrans needs to better prepare the Tribes so they can be competitive. The SHSP will help drive future actions and investments. It will need to look at how the Tribes will be able to collect data and whether the collection process will work with others (like the CHP). The Tribes are concerned about the funding being data driven because they just don't have the data. How do the Tribes become equally competitive? This is something that still needs to be explored
- ➤ How do Tribes apply for the HSIP?
 - o Since Tribes are sovereign nations and not considered a city or local agency, they apply directly to Caltrans and would probably need a funds transfer agreement. But Caltrans is still working on figuring out the process. The guidelines may come from the State, but it is not a State program. But typically once the federal funding is given to Caltrans, the selection process is at Caltrans' discretion. So there is still a gray area here that requires discussion with Federal Highways and Caltrans
- On January 6th, the proposed rules on the safety performance measures and the HSIP program should be released by the federal government. There will be a comment period
- What is the possibility of earmarking funds for Tribal roads or public roads on Tribal land?
 Not answered, discussion continued
- Based on the trust responsibility in the past, the Tribes don't have a lot of confidence that the
 agencies will coordinate with them now. At the Tribal Safety Summit, some of the Federal
 Highways staff spoke and stated they know there have been issues in the past, but they are trying
 to make it right. It is important that the Tribes help Caltrans and Federal Highways understand
 their needs
- The Tribes are concerned that by the time there is funding, there won't be any left for them because they are at the tail end. Caltrans promised to help with an interactive dialogue
- There are still some issues with MAP-21. There wasn't a lot of guidance provided in some areas, so it is still being figured out. Plus, there is some unknown about what is going to happen after the 2-years of the bill, though it could be extended. But safety is a top priority and the HSIP funds are popular, so the funding pot should always be there
- It is important that Caltrans, Federal Highways, and the Tribes come together to clarify some points because there is differing information depending on who you are discussing with, which causes confusion for everyone
- The data goes into the Statewide Integrated Management System and is entered by CHP, sheriffs, and cities but there is often a backlog, which is a problem
- UC Berkeley's SafeTREC (Transportation Research and Education Center) is under contract with Caltrans to pull from the Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS) database and do analysis. They noticed there is a lot of data missing for Tribal routes, therefore collisions on Tribal lands are very underrepresented
- The Tribes are also concerned if data shows that there are higher rates of collisions on routes leading to casinos. Will they receive funding or will agencies expect the casinos to fund improvements? And some Tribes don't have casinos, so how are they affected? But since the process is data-driven, you need the data to show the clusters of collisions so you can see where the problem areas are located. It isn't a casino issue, it is an issue regarding lack of data
- ➤ Is SWITRS the only program you compare data from?



Thursday, November 14, 2013

- All State and local roads use SWITRS and that is where CHP enters their data, although there is a 2-year backlog
- When CHP enter data for collisions on Tribal lands, it is all entered as one code, except for fatalities. And they don't do GPS. If Tribes don't have access to SWITRS, but have their own Tribal police force, can they collect their own data and submit it to Caltrans?
 - O Caltrans is unsure. At the Tribal Safety Summit, it was stated that all data entered into SWITRS must be witnessed by CHP or other law enforcement agency. It is unclear whether a Tribal police force would apply. The Tribes would like to see their Tribal police force given access to SWITRS to make sure all incidents are entered and entered accurately. In the meantime, Caltrans suggested the Tribes continue to collect their data and put together a package, and maybe it can be added to SWITRS. The Tribes are still concerned that they will submit the data but their projects won't be selected because the data wasn't collected by CHP. They feel this would be a breach of trust
- > Can you submit a grant for data collection?
 - The funding is flexible to be used for data collection. But we may have to change the State statute to make it available for data. This is something that needs to be explored further
- In some of the rural areas, there are zones that do not have cell service which is a safety issue due to delays in emergency services, etc.
- In the maps shown during the presentation, it could be seen that there was more data for Tribal areas in Southern California than for the rest of the state. There is very little data shown, and the data that is shown is generally along State highways
- Several Tribes applied for direct funding from the federal government for a Tribal safety plan. Hoopa Valley Tribe, Yurok Tribe, and Karuk Tribe won grants. The funding may include strategies, activities, or projects on public roads that are consistent with the SHSP
- Caltrans has offered to help assist the Tribes in developing their plans and giving them guidance with regards to data collection
- The SHSP needs to be approved by Secretary Kelly by August 1st of 2015. If it is not completed in time, California cannot participate in the redistribution of funds, which amounts to hundreds of millions of dollars for projects. Most regional planning agencies haven't addressed safety much at all, so it is an area in need of improvement. Instead of looking at specific safety spots, we need to develop a safety strategy

8) Discussion – Facilitated by Caltrans

- What do you see as the major transportation challenges facing California's Tribes now and into the future?
 - We need to accommodate all modes of travel safely on all State and local routes that travel through or are adjacent to Tribal lands (Complete Streets). These routes need to be maintained. Safe Routes to School is also a component of this
 - We need to begin the process of identifying how we can develop agreements between Tribal governments and other regional and government agencies in order to secure funding (direct access) and get projects constructed. These can be policies that are included in the CTP



- Note: The Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program is now the Transportation
 Alternative Program (TAP) which incorporates Safe Routes to School. It is currently being
 updated
- There should be a Tribal Trails Program that is incorporated into the CTP in the future. It would include non-motorized, safety, recreation travel, tourism, hiking – all modes of transportation
- The approach to consultation between agencies and Tribal governments needs to move away from the past history of notification, and move to more regular face-to-face consultation and discussion on policy. It would be helpful to have the face-to-face consultation with individual Tribes. It should be a three-level approach executive level, management level, and field level so that everyone can contribute and be included. These can be policies that are included in the CTP. The consultation needs to start at the beginning, and not after Caltrans is moving forward in the planning stages of a project
- We need to change the CHP policy for documenting incidents on Tribal lands (as private property) and for accepting reports from Tribal police forces. Potentially we could use smartphones to generate reports and input to the database. We need to look at other ways to collect data and not solely rely on the CHP. We should work with the Commissioner to try to change the CHP's policy
- Caltrans needs to work on its consultation program with respect to cultural resources and sites
- o The Hoopa Valley Tribe would like the Trinity Bridge Project included in the HSIP. The bridge was built in 1965 and is very narrow with no pedestrian facilities. It is in the middle of the reservation and there are lots of fatalities, trucks drive very fast. How will they be able to go after the funding? What is the process?
- The Karuk Tribe has a good relationship with the Districts in their area, but the maintenance crews are not always receptive to information provided by the Tribe which is a concern near cultural areas. We need to ensure that their supervisor is aware so better coordination needs to occur. They should respect the Environmental Sensitive Area (ESA) fencing and know to keep out
- We need to make sure that when we have the "consultation", they aren't just words, that they are acted upon as well
- o In the rural areas, it is difficult to get funding for public transportation
- The Yurok Tribe is considering a ferry boat system to connect the lower and upper parts of the reservation
- What was the situation down in the Willits area with the Sherwood Rancheria?
 - o The Native American Liaison in that area, Kathleen Sartorius, would have the best information. But generally, the Tribal consultation efforts were incomplete and there was a lack of documents on them. There was a known, recorded site that was destroyed. It was apparently incorrectly mapped outside of the impact zone and was discovered while it was being destroyed. Tina Biorn of District 1 can also be contacted for more information
 - The most important aspect that requires coordination between Tribal governments and other agencies is preservation of cultural places. Once the sites are destroyed, you can't get them back



- The Tribes would like to invite Tina Biorn to the next NAAC meeting to give a report on the Willits incident so that it can be added to the record
- There can also be issues with regard to Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) requirements, when there is the option of consulting with Tribal religious leaders versus Tribal government officials
- The Hoopa Valley Tribe has had good experience dealing with Caltrans recently on a resurfacing project. They worked with Darrell Cardiff who made sure the scheduled project did not interfere with Tribal dances. Darrell consulted with both government and religious leaders. Since Tribal dances are typically scheduled based on the moon, and not an exact date, there needed to be compromises made for project scheduling, which worked out in the end
- The Tribes, Caltrans, and the contractors need to consult together on projects like this and the consultation needs to happen from the beginning once cultural sites are identified. This is also a multi-tiered situation sometimes there are sites that are not in the databases that only the Tribes know about. And some may not be forthcoming about where the sites are, but they can identify if there is something that needs to be protected. During projects, there should be a Tribal monitor there to make sure work is happening as it should
- The CTP should include a policy enhancing and conserving cultural resources and a policy for facilitating conversation between the Tribes and contractors
- All additional comments on the CTP and/or Tribal Listening Session can be submitted in writing to Laurie Waters
- Caltrans thanked the Tribes for attending and providing input
- A transcript of the session will be prepared and sent out to attendees as well as a summary of the major issues. Caltrans will also share the information with the NAAC, the transportation agencies, and the Caltrans Director
- Caltrans previously sent a letter out to all Tribes offering consult on the CTP (and we can also include the SHSP). All Tribes are encouraged to contact their liaison to schedule consultation